

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

T - 66 - 05 For Immediate Release

December 6, 2005

DTSC Public Information Officers

Northern California: Ron Baker 916.324.3142

Angela Blanchette 510.540.3732

Carol Singleton 916.255.6578

Southern California: Sandy Friedman 714.484.5383

Jeanne Garcia 818.551.2176

DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ANNOUNCES BROWNFIELDS REVOLVING LOAN FUND GRANT PROPOSAL

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is seeking public comments on a grant proposal being submitted to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to assist with Brownfields revitalization activities throughout the state. The grants are part of the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act to help states and communities assess and clean up Brownfields sites. Brownfields sites are defined as "...real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant."

DTSC is applying as the primary grant recipient for a \$3 million revolving fund loan (RLF) grant as a coalition partner with the cities of Los Angeles and San Francisco to address brownfields sites contaminated with hazardous substances and petroleum. The program is designed to provide funding to eligible sites within the state and provide subgrants to carry out cleanup activities and return properties to productive use. Subgrants are restricted to \$200,000 for each site.

DTSC, in partnership with the California State Rural Health Association, will target a portion of the funds on rural communities impacted by brownfields sites. U.S. EPA's deadline for submission of assessment, cleanup, and revolving loan fund (RLF) grant proposals for the federal 2006 fiscal year budget is December 14, 2005.

The public may provide comments to the draft proposal. A hard copy of the draft proposal may be obtained by contacting Megan Cambridge at (916) 255-3727 or by e-mail MCambrid@dtsc.ca.gov. For more information on U.S. EPA's Brownfields Program or to obtain a copy online of the "Proposal Guidelines for Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants" please refer to http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/pg/guidelines_2005_toc_fy05.htm

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.